

SERVING AND LEADING, AN EMERGENCY NURSE'S LEGACY



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Serving others is an inherent part of the emergency nursing role. It can be exasperating at times when it seems as though our patients believe we are there to wait on them. I choose to view our opportunity to serve others as an honor. We are there to advocate, intervene, educate, and ensure they receive exceptional care. As emergency nurses we are the ones our patients and their families trust the most.

Emergency nursing is much more than a job, it is who we are and part of how we identify ourselves. Serving and caring for others is second nature; we never wish for our patients to be ill or injured, but when they are we want to be there to provide care. The opportunity to care for others on what may be their worst day often brings out the very best in the emergency nurse. We embrace the challenges we encounter and use our knowledge, skills, and compassion to optimize outcomes.

Serving others first is servant leadership. Emergency nurses may forget to address their own basic needs such as food or breaks while serving others in need of care or caring. Catastrophic events such as hurricanes or wildfires highlight emergency nurses embracing servant leadership through their commitment to provide care for others. Emergency nurses have chosen to serve and lead.

Leading others is implicit in the emergency nurse role. The emergency nurse has many opportunities to lead:

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during care coordination as a stretcher-side nurse, communication with the patient's family, collaboration with other members of the health care team, working as an advanced practice provider, when taking on formal and informal leadership positions, and many other settings. Leadership is one pathway that has demonstrated how emergency nurses have made substantial and enduring contributions to the profession.

It is my privilege to recognize the Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Emergency Nursing (JEN) for her contributions to emergency nursing and the global profession of nursing. The emergency nursing community has been fortunate to have Dr. Anne P. Manton (Figure) at the helm of JEN for the past 5 years. A nurse for more than 50 years, Dr. Manton has served in many roles: staff nurse, nurse manager, academic faculty, assistant and associate professor, undergraduate and graduate faculty program directors, interim dean, psychiatric-mental health nurse practitioner, and consultant. A member of the Emergency Nurses Association (ENA) for more than 40 years, Dr. Manton was the 1998 ENA President. In addition she has received countless awards and recognition for her significant contributions to nursing. While her professional career and most recently her work with the JEN have been stellar, I would be remiss if I did not mention her commitment to her family and friends. One of the first times I met Anne, I met her family through their pictures. She truly glowed when she spoke of her husband, children, and grandchildren. It was obvious that her family was her true passion, while emergency



FIGURE

Anne P. Manton, PhD, RN, PMHNP-BC, FAEN, FAAN.

nursing was her calling. For many years, Dr. Manton has selflessly served and led others.

On behalf of emergency nurses around the world, we are grateful for your service and leadership; you have made

a difference in the profession and in the lives of others. You have created a legacy that will be hard to follow. ENA and the JEN are grateful Anne's calling was to serve and lead emergency nurses.